

Accessing Census Data on Asian, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander Populations

The Role of Census Information Centers

Testimony to the
Subcommittee on Populations
National Committee on Vital &
Health Statistics (NCVHS)

Submitted by the
Asian & Pacific Islander
American Health Forum

November 13, 2003

Overview

- Census Information Centers
- Census Info
- Issues presented by Census 2000
- Supporting communities

Census Information Centers (CIC)

- Bureau of the Census, Customer Liaison Office
- Mission to disseminate Census data, especially to underserved communities
- 50+ community-based organizations, universities, tribal organizations, national advocacy organizations
- Free data, training, special products, and other in-kind support

What do CICs do?

- Race and Ethnic Data Research (90%)
- Writing Grants and Proposals (86%)
- Research and Data Analysis (80%)
- Advocacy for Children, Families and Communities (58%)
- Program Planning (58%)

What do CICs do?

- Business and Economic Research (42%)
- Defining Service Areas (38%)
- Grant-Making (36%)
- Measuring Policy Impact (34%)

CICs Serving ANHOPI

- Arab American Institute (Washington, DC)
- Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum,
Asian & Pacific Islander Center for Census
Information Services (ACCIS) (San Francisco, CA)
- Asian American Federation of New York
- ASIAN, Inc (San Francisco, CA)

CICs Serving ANHOPI

- Chinese American Voters Education Committee (San Francisco, CA)
- Korean American Coalition (Los Angeles, CA)
- National Asian Pacific Center on Aging (Seattle, WA)
- Organization of Chinese Americans (Washington, DC)

CICs Serving ANHOPI

- Papa Ola Lokahi (Honolulu, HI)
- UCLA Asian American Studies Center (Los Angeles, CA)
- The Urban Coalition (Minneapolis, MN)
- www.cicinfo.org
- www.census.gov

APIAHF ACCIS

- Data requests
- Needs assessments
- Fact sheets
- Advocacy

APIAHF ACCIS

- Training and Technical Assistance
(Washington, DC; San Francisco, CA;
Chicago, IL; Honolulu, HI; Maui, HI)
- Discussion group for AAPI CICs
(consistency in data presentation and other
common issues)

APIAHF ACCIS Products

- How many APIs are there?
- Top 10 States – Population
- Top 10 States – Long Form

Issues

- CATEGORIES:

Can we accurately characterize the health status of a specific race/ethnic population—including detailed race groups and multi-racial populations?

- COMPARABILITY:

Can we measure a change in health status (reduction in health disparities)?

- CENSUS 2010:

The American Community Survey

Yes, but...

- CATEGORIES:

Can we accurately characterize the health status of a specific race/ethnic population—including detailed race groups and multi-racial populations?

- COMPARABILITY:

Can we measure a change in health status (reduction in health disparities)?

Very Carefully

- How do I compare Census 2000 race data with 1990 and previous censuses?
- How do I compare Census 2000 race data with race data collected from other surveys?

American Community Survey

- Will replace long form in Census 2010
- Currently being tested
- Outreach and translation will not be as extensive

Long Form Questionnaire

- ◆ Short form questions PLUS additional questions in 34 subjects
- ◆ “Sample Data” [SF-3, SF-4]
- ◆ 1 out of 6 households [on average]

Long Form Questionnaire

◆ **Social Characteristics**

Marital Status, Education, Disability, Caregiver Status, Language Spoken at Home

◆ **Economic Characteristics**

Work Status, Income, Journey to Work

◆ **Housing Characteristics**

Rooms, Year Structure Built, Plumbing Kitchen Facilities, Value, Rent, Shelter Costs

Supporting the Community

- ◆ Census does not have grant-making authority
- ◆ Data analysis and dissemination for community benefit funded by...
 - ◆ Cost recovery
 - ◆ Grants
 - ◆ Partnerships

Fin

Additional slides

Available Categories

Race tabulations can be aggregated and shown as:

- ❑ Race alone categories ["a"]
- ❑ A two or more races category ["b"]
- ❑ Race alone or in combination with one or more races ["a+b"]

Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander: Alone or in combination?

	California	U.S.	Table
NHOPI Alone	116,961	398,835	SF1, P9
NHOPI Alone or in combination	221,458	874,414	SF1, P7
% difference	89%	119%	(P7-P9)/P9

17 Detailed Asian Categories

Asian Indian

Bangladeshi

Cambodian

Chinese, except Taiwanese

Filipino

Hmong

Indonesian

Japanese

Korean

Laotian

Malaysian

Pakistani

Sri Lankan

Taiwanese

Thai

Vietnamese

Other Asian

12 Detailed Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Categories

Polynesian:

Native Hawaiian

Samoaan

Tongan

Other Polynesian

Melanesian

Fijian

Other Melanesian

Other Pacific Islander

Micronesian:

Guamanian or

Chamorro

Other Micronesian

Who is multi-racial?

- Choosing one or more detailed race categories within one race category is NOT multi-racial.
 - ✓ Chinese + Filipino = One Race (Asian Alone)
 - ✓ Native Hawaiian + Japanese = Two Races (Asian Alone or in Combination, AND NHOPI Alone or in Combination)

Comparability

- ◆ Census 2000 race and ethnicity data is not directly comparable to data from previous censuses.
- ◆ The change in a population from a previous census to Census 2000 may have resulted from:
 - △ Revisions of the race and ethnicity questions, as well as...
 - △ An actual change in the population.

Comparability

- ◆ National health surveys do not collect race and ethnicity data in the same way as Census 2000...yet?
- ◆ Question may be worded differently.
- ◆ Survey methodology may be different from Census.

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Native Hawaiian & Other Pacific Islander: Alone or in combination?

- 100 new cases of disease in NHOPIs in California
- Incidence =
 - » 85 per 100,000?
 - OR
 - » 45 per 100,000?

So...

- Which is the correct incidence?
- Who is in your sample?
- What is the population of NHOPIs?
- What is the denominator?

Bridging

- The process of assigning individuals who are of “Two or more races” to one race for the purpose of finding out change over time.
- What response would the individual have chosen under the old standards?
- One race (1997) : One race (1977)
- The result is a standard denominator.
- **OMB Provisional Guidance on the Implementation of the 1997 Standards for Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity (Dec. 15, 2000).**

Bridging Methods

- ◆ An individual is assigned completely to one category.
 - ◆ Smallest group
 - ◆ Largest group other than White
 - ◆ Largest group
 - ◆ Plurality (NHIS follow-up question)
- ◆ Example: WHITE + BLACK + ASIAN

Bridging Methods

- ◆ An individual is assigned partially to each selected category.
 - ◆ Equal fractions
 - ◆ NHIS fractions

Health Status of a Multiracial Group

- Only enough data to analyze White in combination groups.
- Falls in between White Alone and White in combination.
- Sample is small.